



CHAPTER 613

Franklin County State Airport (KFSO)

Swanton, Vermont

February 2025

Message from the Chapter President by John Fitzgerald

Greetings all

We're sorry that Shirley and I missed you all last month. We were driving back from the sunny state of Florida. Many of you know I retired after 42 years in the automotive business, so off we went to Florida for a couple of weeks. We will see you next Sunday for our February breakfast. We tried to bring back some warm weather, but Mother Nature had a different plans.

Yes, it's the middle of the winter and lots of snow this year so I hope you're getting out and enjoying some winter activities. If you're not able to fly don't forget we have a couple of flight training devices in the Aviation Center. If you haven't paid your 2025 dues, please send them to chapter treasurer, Bethany Fronhofer, or bring them to the breakfast. Dues are \$25.00 for single, \$30.00 for family memberships. If you want to use the training devices, please add \$50.00 extra for the year. You can also go to our website and pay online.

The Chapter building is named the Taylor Aviation Center. It was dedicated to Donald and Earl Taylor for their many years of service and generosity. Donald and Earl were twins and passed away a few years ago. They both helped build and support Chapter 613. Earl was not a pilot, but he was always there to support his brother and our Chapter. You could find him at the stove cooking breakfast or riding his John Deere tractor mowing and keeping up the grounds. Donald made the Chapter building his second home and was a huge supporter of the Young Eagles program. He flew just over 1800 Young Eagle Flights. For his dedication and hard work, Donald was awarded the EAA Major Achievement Award. Last month the Taylor Family gave Chapter 613 a very generous donation which will be used to maintain the Chapter, as well as the Young Eagle and Youth Aviation programs. We can't thank them enough.



Pancake Breakfast & IMC Club Meeting—Sunday, February 19th!

Please join us for our Chapter 613 March Pancake Breakfast on February 16th!

Where: EAA Chapter 613 Aviation Center, Franklin County State Airport (KFSO)

Time: 9:00—11:00 AM

Who: Chapter 613 members and guests are warmly invited to join us

What: Pancakes (with or without blueberries), sausage, bacon, maple syrup, scrambled eggs, coffee, orange juice.

Prices: Breakfast: \$8.00,

Breakfast with Three 50/50 Raffle Tickets: \$10.00.

Raffle Tickets only: \$1.00 each or Six for \$5.00.



Following the breakfast, Miguel Marin will be hosting an IMC Club Meeting. If you haven't been to an IMC Club Meeting before, check it out, it's a great scenario-based learning experience!

We look forward to seeing you there!!!

January Pancake Breakfast

By Marge Butterfield

It was a cold, but sunny day for our January 19th pancake breakfast. We had a smaller turnout than usual. Everyone had a good time enjoying the breakfast and catching up with friends. Vice President, Miguel Marin and Claudia Marin had a long drive from Canada to make it to the Taylor Aviation Center at 8:00 in time to start cooking the sausages and getting ready for cooking the pancakes. They did a great job. Marge Butterfield made the scrambled eggs and bacon and brought some cranberry orange bread. John Butterfield was busy keeping up with the coffee and making sure there was enough syrup, butter and orange juice on hand. Also he helped with the cleanup along with Claudia and Miguel Marin, Nikoletta Salvatore and Marge Butterfield. Treasurer, Bethany Fronhofer, was busy throughout the morning meeting people as they came in to pay for the breakfast and dues. President, John Fitzgerald and First Lady, Shirley, didn't make it to the pancake breakfast as they were in Florida having a fine time and enjoying some warmer weather. The cooks for the February 16th pancake breakfast will be Marge's brothers, Mike and Larry and sister in law, Liz. They always come to visit over President's Day weekend and love to help out with the cooking when they're here.

Following the pancake breakfast, Miguel Marin hosted a VMC meeting.

The VMC and IMC Club meetings are a great scenario-based learning experience, and we would like to encourage all members, including our **Youth Aviators**, to attend. Even those of us who have been flying for a long time, always learn something new!



Instructor's Corner—Ed Scott

Crammed into a tight cockpit, flight training means a close relationship with the instructor sitting next to you. In my PPL fixed wing training as a teenager at the then-grass strip in East Middlebury, I had a Stearman crop duster pilot for an instructor whose entertainment was to make fun of me, and whose primary teaching tool was a sharp crack to the back of my head when I made a mistake. Despite headaches after every lesson, I loved flying his Aeronca Champ, and somehow, despite the abuse, I got my license. I came away from my time with Vic figuring that, in learning to fly, his teaching methods were the norm.

When I joined the Army, it was specifically to go to helicopter flight school. There was a two-year wait time while I worked as a flight simulator operator, but eventually a class opened, and I was accepted. From my experience with Vic at Middlebury, I anticipated bullies for instructors, drill sergeants with wings, determined to make my life miserable and wash me out as quickly as possible.

The program was high pressure with specific objectives that had to be met within a certain number of hours in the trainer of the time, a Hiller H-23, not the easiest helicopter to fly: solo in 20 hours or you were out, sign off for touch down autorotations, or you were out. Such pressure was intimidating, and anticipating hard-ass instructors, seemingly impossible goals.

So, expecting another "Vic," I was surprised on the first day to meet my instructor, Vaughn. Vaughn wasn't much older than we were, a soft-spoken young guy who put us at ease, and who was fun to fly with. We were his first helicopter students at Camp Wolters, so he was assigned to three of us who all had fixed wing private pilot licenses. With such prior experience in the air, a new instructor like Vaughn wouldn't have to spend valuable hours just getting us accustomed to being airborne.

Such insight on the part of the Army, understanding the instructional value in matching students with instructors, was surprising, and proved to be the guiding philosophy throughout my training, both at Camp Wolters and later at Fort Rucker for advanced cargo training. Students who can relate to and like their instructors are going to learn more quickly and easily without the stress of dealing with someone in the other seat with whom they can't relate and feel at ease. The training philosophy went farther allowing us to request a change of instructors. When one of my instructors with whom I had a great relationship was transferred, and I was assigned another who was a "Vic," I asked for and immediately got another instructor.

As a public-school teacher, and as a civilian flight instructor, the most valuable lesson I learned with the Army training was the importance of building relationships with students. It's always seemed ironic that the Army, always portrayed as impersonal and bad ass, should have this insight. But in thinking about it, it's clear that the best leaders are those who build relationships and acknowledge the individuals for whom they're responsible.

As a teacher, I know I may not be the best match, and someone I'm flying with may want to fly with someone else. This was recently brought up when I was put with a student who'd been flying with another instructor for some time. He was clearly uncomfortable with me, so we talked about it, and he's going back to his first instructor. I am not insulted, understanding what I'd learned so long ago about teacher/student relationships.

Young Aviators in the Chapter 613 program have the right to fly with whomever they wish. In fact, that is a requirement of the Ray Scholarship. If you are not progressing the way you think you should, if the "chemistry" between you and your instructor is not right, you will always have the option of choosing whom you want to fly with. You are making a serious commitment, you know you, and you know who will be the best instructor for your personality and learning style.

Minutes of the January 19th Chapter 613 Board Meeting

Minutes of this meeting are posted on the Chapter 613 website and can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

[241219 EAA Chapter 613 Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

Members are encouraged to review these meeting minutes and contact any officer for more information. The decisions made by the Chapter Officers will be considered final after the next Board Meeting, unless a member requests that decisions be tabled at the meeting for further discussion by the entire membership.

Online Chapter Membership Application and Renewals Made Easy!

Yes, you can renew and apply for, Chapter 613 membership online with our new easy-to-access links found on our website.

Simply click on the following link: [Join or Renew Your Chapter Membership](#) and it will take you to the “Join or Renew Your Chapter Membership” page on our Chapter website. On this page, you will see three links which are:

- ⇒ Join EAA Chapter 613 as a new member: [Join EAA Chapter 613 - Google Forms](#)
- ⇒ Renew your existing membership: [Renew Your Chapter 613 Membership - Google Forms](#)
- ⇒ Pay your dues, and optional flight training device fee, via credit card: [EAA Chapter 613 - 2025 Dues - Cheddar Up](#)
- ⇒ There are also instructions on how to pay via check or cash.

Thank you again for supporting our Chapter through your membership!!!

Last Call for Cabin Fever Frolic!

When you visit EAA Chapter 613's Taylor Aviation Center you'll see the collection of photos on the wall from past Cabin Fever Frolic events. Cabin Fever Frolic was an annual event where we all got together to celebrate during the long months of winter.

EAA Chapter 613 and The Vermont Aviators Association are co-hosting Cabin Fever Frolic 2025 in a slightly different format than the traditional banquets that we have had in the past.

Cabin Fever Frolic 2025 will be a more informal event where people purchase their own food and drink while enjoying friendship and planned activities (described below) in our own dedicated space at the Burlington Beer Company.

There is no additional charge (other than your own food, drink and tips), but our group does have to spend a minimum of \$300.00 to cover the cost of the venue.

When: Saturday, March 1st, 2025, 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Where: The Burlington Beer Company, 180 Flynn Avenue, Burlington, VT

Website: [BBCO | Burlington Beer Company - Where Fermentation Meets Imagination](#)

What:

Come together for an evening of food, drinks, and laughter as we celebrate the aviation community and welcome Evan Robinson and Mike Sturges, our new Vermont Aviation Administration leaders.

There will be an aviation-themed slideshow running throughout the event, showcasing the best moments from our community. Feel free to share your favorite aviation photos by emailing them to Chris@VermontAviators.org

And don't miss the exciting aviation-themed Jeopardy game—test your knowledge and have some fun!

Reserve Your Space: If you plan to attend, please send Chris Chicoine an email (Chris@VermontAviators.org) or text (802-238-6035) so we can save a spot for you.

The event is limited to 50 people, so reserve now!

Electric Drill Powered Towbar For Sale

Go-Tow towbar, powered by a 20V electric drill (not included). Towbar has enough power to move a Cessna 182 on reasonably level surfaces.

This towbar retails for \$1,995, asking \$100. Proceeds will be donated to Chapter 613.

Contact Marge or John Butterfield for details (airbear9fj@gmail.com)





EAA Chapter 613
Youth Aviator Program Corner
February 2025



EAA Chapter 613 Youth Flyers: Reflections from Flight Training

Miranda Gallagher, High School Aviator

This month I haven't been able to fly as much as I would like to because of weather but I have gotten to take a few flights to KBTV and KPBG to practice landings, radio calls, and ground reference maneuvers. On the Habitat build we've started working on our wing skins. We were visited by members of the Air National Guard so they could see what we've been doing. Hopefully by next newsletter we will have finished our skins and can start working on our fuel tanks.

Scholarships Available

- AOPA FOUNDATION AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP High School Students: The AOPA Foundation has earmarked 80 scholarships of \$10,000 each for students ages 16-18 to earn their private pilot certificate. **SCHOLARSHIPS CLOSE FEB 7, 2025.**
<https://www.aopa.org/training-and-safety/learn-to-fly/aviation-scholarships>
- Capt. Sax scholarships, given in honor of Capt. John J. Sax, USMC: <https://captisaxfoundation.org/>
- Lyons Aviation Scholarship: <https://lyonsaviation.org/application/> **SCHOLARSHIPS CLOSE FEBRUARY 18, 2025**

NEK-TV “Life is Good” Program on Northeast Kingdom International Airport (KEFK)

Here is an in-depth interview about EFK on the NEK-TV show, “Life is Good” with Heather McKeown, that was released on 2-3-2025. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bAp7ocmgXqc>

Heather’s team (a videographer and an editor) put together this entertaining show of a visit to EFK on a freezing cold day earlier this winter

Here’s the Table of Contents for the 39+ minute show:

0:00	Jim S discusses his high-tech, Czech built, Light Sports Aircraft (LSA)
5:40	Scott W discusses his General Aviation (GA) 1967 Mooney (Casper)
8:05	Scott W discusses his Experimental Home-Built, 1973 Starduster open cockpit, two-holer, biplane
11:36	Heather visits Nat S’s hangar to see a GA Grumman Cheetah with a sliding canopy, another GA Mooney
12:18	Heather visits the “Big Dog” in the hangar, a De Havilland Beaver with a massive radial engine, owned by Hank B
18:03	Heather visits with Mike C and Jake S, and their Experimental Just Aircraft Super STOL (Short Take-Off and Landing) machine
20:34	Heather and Dan G discuss the possibility of taking an aerial tour around the area
21:23	Dan G takes Heather for a winter aerial tour of the area around the southern end of Lake Memphremagog and above Newport City
26:17	Heather, Dan G and Scott W discuss the history of the old, 1945 terminal and the prospects for a new terminal renovation in the nearby hangar building

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John Butterfield—Newsletter Editor

EAA CHAPTER 613

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

February 2025

